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JOHANNES MATTFELD

Nachruf von F. Markgraf (München)

Jedem Systematiker, der seit 1930 an den internationalen botanischen Congressen teilgenommen hat, war Prof. Dr Mattfeld eine wohlbekannte Persönlichkeit. Wir alle kannten sein bescheidenes, warmherziges Wesen, dem eine sichere und umfassende Kenntnis seines Faches zugrunde lag. Wir erfreuten uns an seinem klaren Blick und festen Urteil und an seiner schnellen Auffassungsgabe für das Wesentliche. Diese trat namentlich in den Sitzungen der Nomenklaturkommission hervor, in denen er als Schriftführer immer rasch den Gegenstand der Abstimmung in deutscher Sprache formulierte. Dieses Amt hatte er schon in Cambridge 1930 als Vertreter für Harms verwaltet, dann selbständig 1935 in Amsterdam und 1950 in Stockholm. Zwar sind Benunnungsregeln formaler Natur, aber ihre Behandlung setzt ein feines Taktgefühl und vor allem eine grosze systematische Erfahrung voraus. Beides besasz er und wandte es zum Nutzen der Sache an.

Bei seinen vielfältigen Spezialkenntnissen in einzelnen Familien hätte man vielleicht nicht einmal die Tiefe und Weite erwartet, die seine systematisch-morphologischen Arbeiten auszeichnet. Aber darin war er ein echter Schüler Englers, der ebenfalls unglaublich viele Einzelkenntnisse mit einem groszen Überblick vereinigte. Er war es auch in seiner gesamten Forschungsrichtung. Durch seine tiefgreifende und kritische Dissertation über die Gattung Minuartia dankte er seinem Lehrer in schönster Weise.

Geboren in Bremerhaven-Lehe am 18.1.1895 als Sohn des Rektors Friedrich Mattfeld und seiner Gemahlin Anna-Gesche geb. Röpke, erfuhr er schon in seiner Heimat neben dem humanistischen Gymnasial-Unterricht eine gute botanische und sogar speziell floristische Ausbildung, sodasz er schon als Schüler 1913 eine Wanderung zu den atlantischen Floren-Elementen Hollands bis nach Katwijk unternahm. 1914 begann er seine Studien an der Universität Freiburg i. Br., siedelte aber schon im Sommer 1915 an die Universität Berlin über mit dem ausgesprochenen Ziel, in Systematik forschend zu arbeiten. 1921 promovierte er magna cum laude mit der genannten Minuartia-Monographie.

Schon seit 1.4.1919 war er Assistent am Botanischen Museum zu Berlin-Dahlem und blieb diesem Institut bis zu seinem Tode treu. Er arbeitete dort besonders in den Familien Caryophyllaceae, Cyperaceae, Saxifragaceae, Compositae. Den Compositen gehört auch die Gattung Mattfeldia Urb. an, eine westindische Senecionee. — Die phylogenetischen Zusammenhänge zeigten sich ihm immer anschaulich, aber er bedachte stets alle Möglichkeiten der Deutung und versuchte die von der Natur verwirklichte exakt zu beweisen. Dabei war er ganz freimütig bereit, über seine Entdeckungen zu diskutieren, in der ehrlichen Überzeugung, dasz es nur auf die wissenschaftliche Wahrheit selbst ankomme, nicht auf die Person ihres Entdeckers.

Von seinen vielen wissenschaftlichen Arbeiten können hier nur wenige wichtigere hervorgehoben werden. In seiner Minuartia-Bearbeitung (Repert. Beih. *15*, 1922) wägte er objektiv die morphologischen Merkmale ab, um sie dann als Kriterium der Verwandtschaft zu benutzen. Danach ermittelte er die Verbreitung einer solchen Verwandtschaftsgruppe und rekonstruierte daraus im Zusammenhang mit ihrer morphologischen Ableitung ihr vermutliches Schicksal in geologischer Vergangenheit. — In derselben Weise ging er auch bei anderen Herbar-Arbeiten vor, ob sie nun oreophytische Caryophyllaceen und Compositen aus Neuguinea oder Afrika betrafen, oder andine Orobanchen oder Caryophyllaceen, oder

die ganze Gattung Aubrieta, oder die Phylogenie der Gattung Rhododendron. (Bot. Jahrb. *62*, 1929, 368-451; 475-579; 494-501; *68*, 1937, 248-268; *69*, 1938, 267-273; 283-294; *70*, 1940, 468-482; Notizbl. Bot. Gart. u. Mus. Berlin-Dahlem *8*, 1922, 235-237, 284; *12*, 1935, 687-688; *8*, 1922, 182-186; *13*, 1936, 436-444; Repert. *18*, 1922, 167-179; *36*, 1934, 274-284; Gartenflora *68*, 1937, 105-109; Blätter f. Staudenkunde 1937, 1-13).

Zu erhöhter Bedeutung wuchs sich eine kleine Beobachtung an einer australischen Caryophyllacee aus, Stellaria filiformis. Hier fanden sich nämlich, bisher unbeachtet, regelmäszig die paarigen Rückendrüsen der Kelch-Stamina in gespaltene Petala auswachsend. Man musz also die ebenso gestalteten und inserierten Petala der übrigen Alsinoideen als Rücken-Anhängsel der Kron-Stamina deuten. Da Mattfeld bei den Silenoideen denselben Blütenbau nachweisen konnte, vereinfachte er die Blütenformel der Caryophyllaceen dadurch auf K5 A 5+5 G(5—2), und damit fiel plötzlich auch die unerklärbare „Obdiplostemonie" fort. Alsbald verfolgte er nun den Ursprung der Petalen durch alle Angiospermen-Familien und fand 1) Petalen aus ganzen Phyllomen der Hochblattregion, z.B. Ranales, Liliiflorae, 2) aus ganzen Staubblättern, z.B. Rosales, 3) aus rückenständigen Staubblatt-Anhängseln, z.B. Caryophyllaceae, Potamogetoninae (Repert. Beih. *100*, 1938, 147-164; Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Ges. *56*, 1938, 86-116; Notizbl. *14*, 1939, 452-482).

Ähnlich erging es ihm mit den Cyperaceen, denen er von Jugend auf ein inneres Interesse zugewandt hatte. Immer wieder fand er bestätigt, dasz die scheinbare Einzelblüte aus Fächeln durch Reduktion abgeleitet werden musz, indem zuletzt eine unbehüllte weibliche Endblüte von 2-3 monandrischen männlichen Blüten mit je einer Braktee umgeben wird und nun als zwitterige Einzelblüte erscheint. Dulichium, das wahrscheinlich dem Ursprung vieler Cyperaceen nahesteht, enträtselte ihm die Natur der „Perianth-Borsten": 5 vordere Borsten sind Reste der Nerven eines männlichen Blüten-Tragblattes, 3 hintere die eines weiblichen. Er forschte daraufhin eingehend in den durch Verwachsungen und Extra-axillierungen schwierigen Blütenständen der Cyperaceen weiter. Es ist ein Jammer, dasz alle dazu gehörigen Zeichnungen und Niederschriften in dem Brand des Botanischen Museums am 1.3.1943 untergingen. Die einzige Veröffentlichung, die aber nur den Anfang dieser Arbeiten betrifft, ist ein verkürzter Bericht in Proc. Zesde Intern. Bot. Congres Amsterdam *1*, 1936, 330-332.

Pflanzengeographisch machte Mattfeld sich zu phylogenetischen Zwecken die Mühe, Populationsanalysen vieler Tannenbestände auf der Balkanhalbinsel durchzuführen, die er mit Unterstützung des Arnold Arboretums in groszen Teilen bereiste. Er erkannte eine geographische Trennung bestimmter Merkmale zwischen Abies alba und cephalonica und in der mittleren Balkanhalbinsel eine Mischungszone, ohne dasz die Areale der beiden Arten sich heute berühren. Es handelt sich also um eiszeitliche Bastardpopulationen. (Bibl. Bot. *100*, 1930; Notizbl. *9*, 1925, 229-246; Mitt. Deutsch. Dendrol. Ges. *35*, 1925, 1-37; *37*, 1926, 16-35; Pflanzenareale *2*, 1926, Karte 14-16).

Solchen Reisen, die immer ein bestimmtes pflanzengeograpisches Ziel hatten, entstammen auch schöne Vegetationsschilderungen. So war Mattfeld 1924 in Bulgarien, 1926 in Griechenland, 1927 in der Europäischen Türkei und in Bulgarien, 1930 in der Chalkidike, 1938 in Süditalien. Mehrfach reiste er botanisch in den Alpen, zum ersten Mal 1921 in Friaul. (Mitt. Deutsch. Dendrol. Ges. *35*, 1925, 277-284; *38*, 1927, 106-151; Verh. Bot. V. Prov. Brandenburg *68*, 1925, 182-186; *71*, 1929, 1-37; Notizbl. *10*, 1928, 321; *11*, 1931, 158-159; Journ. Arnold Arb. *8*, 1927, 133-149; 205-233; Izwest. Bulg. Bot. Druž. *7*, 1936, 63-73).

Auch organisatorisch war er mit Glück tätig, z.B. im Wiederaufbau des Museums und seiner Sammlungen, in der Wiederbelebung der „Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien", als deren Herausgeber er Harms nachgefolgt war, und in der Anlage und Förderung der pflanzengeographischen Kartierung Deutschlands, deren Ergebnisse leider ebenfalls im Kriege verbrannt sind. Für die „Fortschritte der Botanik" bearbeitete er auf Wettsteins Wunsch die Systematik vom ersten Bande an (*1-11*, 1932-1944).

Sein äuszerer Lebensgang war still und einfach; nach einigen Assistenten-Jahren am Botanischen Museum wurde er am 1.3.1926 Kustos am Botan. Garten, am 1.3.1932 Kustos und Professor, am 1.10.1950 komissarischer Direktor des Gartens und Museums.

Sein unauffälliges äuszere Leben umschlosz aber eine grosze und viel bewegende Seele. Deshalb war er allen ernsten Fachkollegen sachlich und menschlich willkommen. Als er nach kurzer Krankheit am 19.1.1951 unerwartet starb, verlor sowohl sein Institut als auch die internationale Wissenschaft mit ihm viel.

THE CHELTENHAM CONFERENCE ON BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE

by

E. D. Merrill (Cambridge, Mass.)

At the 7th International Botanical Congress, Stockholm, July 1950, certain changes were made in the Rules of Nomenclature. At the Congress an Editorial Committee was appointed, charged with the preparation of the new text and with its publication. The heaviest burden naturally fell on the shoulders of Dr Lanjouw for as General Editor he had to prepare the copy. All who attended the sessions at Stockholm will realize that unanimous approval was not extended to all the changes made, and that a very high percentage of all the proposals were rejected by overwhelming majorities. The changes that were made reflect the final decisions of the Congress. The committee was given certain discretion in the improvement of the text, but was forbidden to change the essential meaning of any single passage.

Typed copies of the new text were circulated to all members on the Editorial Committee, of which each member was requested to examine critically and to return his copy to the General Editor not later than November 1, with comments and suggestions. The numerous proposed changes and suggestions of committee members were compiled so that at the Cheltenham Conference each had before him the original typed text and all the criticisms and suggested changes made by all members of the Editorial Committee. Available also were copies of the published documents appertaining to the Cambridge, Amsterdam and Stockholm Congresses.

It was evident from the suggestions made on the returned documents that the members of the Editorial Committee were not in full agreement. Accordingly in November it was decided to call a meeting of the group if a satisfactory date could be selected. Cheltenham was selected as the site for the proposed conference for several reasons.

The chief one was, that Dr and Mrs Sprague, who took such a prominent part in the Stockholm Congress, resided there; a secondary one was, that I had been in London since July 3, but was to sail for New York on December 15. Thus it was that any date previous to December 14, would be satisfactory to the three just named (all retired from active service), if we could only find a date that would be acceptable to the members still in service. The dates selected for the conference were November 26th to 28th inclusive, and these three days were indeed very busy ones. Those who attended were: Dr Ch. Baehni (Switzerland), Dr J. Lanjouw (Netherlands), Dr E. D. Merrill (U.S.A.), Dr T. A. Sprague (Great Britain), and Dr W. Robyns (Belgium).

Dr F. A. Stafleu of Utrecht attended all meetings as secretary.

Mrs Sprague took no part in the proceedings, except to act as a gracious hostess, for all meetings were held in the drawing-room of the Sprague residence, at 4 Ashford Road, Cheltenham. The conference opened auspiciously on Sunday evening, November 25, in the Sprague home, where we were all guests at a very excellent dinner where all conference matters were strictly taboo.

We were under very great obligations to Dr Rickett, the one member of the committee who could not attend (unfortunately Dr Mattfeld, the member for Germany, had died early in the year), for the very numerous suggestions that he made for improving and clarifying the text, and for the cogent reasons he advanced in support of certain grammatical and other changes. Practically every suggestion that he made was unanimously accepted.

It was decided that the title of the new publication should be: *"International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, adopted by the 7th International Botanical Congress, Stockholm, July 1950"*. It will be published as Volume 3 of *"Regnum Vegetabile"*, a series of handbooks to be issued under the auspices of the International Association for Plant Taxonomy. The approximate date of publication will be June, 1952.

A special pre-publication price to members of the I.A.P.T. will be announced later in Taxon. The volume will consist of the English version, which will be the official text, and a French translation to be prepared by the French speaking members of the Editorial Committee. The Editorial Committee deeply regrets that it is not possible to prepare a German translation at this time, because of

the unfortunate death of Dr MATTFELD, on whom we had depended for the text, and again because of the radically increased cost of printing. It is our desire to keep the sales-price of the work as low as possible so as to insure its wide distribution. Translations into other languages may be arranged later should the demand warrant such action.

At the Stockholm Congress various new Articles and Recommendations or rewordings of already existing ones, were approved and referred to the Editorial Committee for final revision; but the Committee was specifically charged that it had no power to change the general sense of any item approved by the Congress. Thus it is that the task of the Editorial Committee is a rather delicate one, especially when without realizing what it did, the Congress on one day approved a certain item; and a day or two later approved another one quite contrary to the earlier action and failed to cancel the first one! The Committee debated various items in extenso before acting in order to be quite certain that what it approved did not actually change the sense and thus did not exceed the authority granted by the Congress itself.

For uniformity in citation the Committee approved in principal the provisions of the Rochester Code for abbreviations, etc. Dr RICKETT had submitted a set of rules of citation which is still being studied in detail.

The new Code will include several appendices covering Paleobotanical Nomenclature, Horticultural Nomenclature, Nomina Conservanda, and Rules of Citation. A provisional scheme will be included appertaining to the organization of future meetings of the taxonomic group covering desirable or necessary Committees, the method of allocation of votes to institutions and organizations, etc. Whatever may be included in this particular appendix will have no force until it is approved by the next International Botanical Congress, now scheduled for Paris in 1954. We all feel the desirability of establishing, if possible, an active interim Committee, which, between Congresses, will have certain powers granted to it. And the more we study the rules and recommendations the more convinced we are that they should be kept as short, concise, and simple as possible. The unfortunate tendency has been to make them more and more complex, but each Congress has wisely rejected by overwhelming majorities most of the proposals submitted by individuals who take an extreme legalistic attitude.

The Editorial Committee in the garden of the Sprague residence. From l. to r. Dr W. Robyns, Mrs M. L. Sprague, Dr J. Lanjouw, Dr E. D. Merrill, Dr Ch. Baehni, Dr Th. A. Sprague.

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSALS, STOCKHOLM

Elsewhere in this issue the forthcoming publication of the new *"International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, as adopted by the 7th International Botanical Congress, Stockholm, July 1950"*, is announced. (Regnum Vegetabile Vol. 3). The discussions at the Stockholm Congress (see Regnum Vegetabile Vol. 1) were based on the *"Synopsis of Proposals concerning the International Rules of Botanical Nomenclature submitted to the 7th Int. Bot. Congr."*.

This *"Synopsis"* was published for the "International Commission of Taxonomy of the I.U.B.S." (now incorporated in I.A.P.T.).

Each *member* of the I.A.P.T. can receive a *free* copy of this Synopsis *on request*. The price for non-members is $ 2.—.

Other publications on which the preparation of the new *"International Code"* is based are:

1. J. LANJOUW, *Botanical Nomenclature and Taxonomy*, Chronica Botanica Vol. XII, n. 1/2 (With a supplement embodying the alterations made at the Amsterdam Congress).

2. J. LANJOUW, *Report Section Nomenclature, Seventh International Botanical Congress*, Regnum Vegetabile Vol. I (for further details see p. 43 of this issue).

A Propos de la "Flore générale de Belgique"

par

W. Robyns (Bruxelles)

En 1870, lors de la création du Jardin Botanique de l'Etat à Bruxelles, les botanistes belges disposaient de: F. Crepin, *"Manuel de la Flore de Belgique"*, pour la détermination des Spermatophytes et des Ptéridophytes du pays. Cet excellent manuel, dont la première édition datait de 1860, était devenu le livre de chevet de tous les floristes belges y compris les amateurs. Aussi, il fut revisé à plusieurs reprises jusqu'à la 5ième édition, datant de 1884, qui connut de nombreuses réimpressions ultérieures sans aucune modification.

Malheureusement, l'édition de 1884 devint petit à petit désuète et périmée, surtout au point de vue de la nomenclature et de la distribution des espèces dans le pays.

Aussi, en 1930, la Section de Botanique du Congrès National des Sciences tenu à Bruxelles émit le voeu de voir publier des Addenda au *"Prodrome de la Flore Belge"* de É. de Wildeman et Th. Durand (1898-1907), qui donnait, en trois volumes, un aperçu d'ensemble de nos connaissances sur la flore de Belgique à la fin du XIXe siècle. C'est ainsi que furent publiées successivement des listes mises à jour et faciles à consulter, à savoir: le *"Catalogue des Ptéridophytes et des Phanérogames de Belgique"* par L. Hauman et S. Balle, en 1934; le *"Catalogue des Lichens de Belgique"* par P. Duvigneaud et L. Giltay, en 1938; le *"Catalogue des Hépatiques de la Flore belge"* par C. Vanden Berghen et P. Duvigneaud, en 1943; enfin le *"Prodrome des Mousses de Belgique"* par F. Demaret, en 1945.

Ces divers catalogues, bien que des plus méritoires comme instruments de travail, ne pouvaient cependant pas servir de Flore, parce qu'ils étaient dépourvus de clés de détermination et basés, en ordre principal, sur les données de la littérature.

Dès 1932, après que nous avions succédé à É. de Wildeman comme Directeur du Jardin Botanique de l'État, nous avions confié l'étude de la flore belge au Dr R. Mosseray, Assistant, en le chargeant en particulier de réunir les matériaux nécessaires à la publication d'une nouvelle Flore des Spermatophytes de Belgique.

Mosseray commença immédiatement l'exploration méthodique du pays et il entreprit la publication d'une série de travaux préliminaires, sous le titre de: *"Matériaux pour une Flore de Belgique"*, parus, de 1934 à 1937, dans le Bulletin de la Société Royale de Botanique de Belgique et dans le Bulletin du Jardin Botanique de l'État. Malheureusement, en août 1939, il fut mobilisé et le 27 mai 1940 il tombait glorieusement au Champ d'honneur, à l'âge de 31 ans.

Notre projet ne put être repris qu'après la seconde guerre mondiale, lorsque nous avons confié l'étude des *Ptéridophytes* et des *Spermatophytes* de la Flore belge au Dr A. Lawalree, Conservateur-adjoint au Jardin Botanique de l'État.

Entretemps, nous avions été amené à élargir considérablement notre projet primitif et à concevoir le plan d'une Flore Générale de Belgique, englobant tous les végétaux croissant à l'état naturel dans le pays et dont le nombre total était estimé, en 1907, à 8893 espèces. Cette Flore Générale sera une oeuvre de longue haleine, qui comprendra six séries distinctes constituant chacune une publication indépendante, à savoir:

Une Flore des Spermatophytes
Une Flore des Ptéridophytes
Une Flore des Bryophytes
Une Flore des Algues
Une Flore des Champignons
Une Flore des Lichens.

Sa réalisation exigera la collaboration de divers systématiciens.

A. Lawalree vient de publier la Flore des Ptéridophytes, sous le titre: *"Flore Générale de Belgique. Ptéridophytes"*. Préface par W. Robyns. Jardin Botanique de l'État. Bruxelles 1950. Il a commencé la préparation de la Flore des Spermatophytes, dont le premier fascicule est actuellement à l'impression.

Le Dr F. Demaret et C. Vanden Berghen ont bien voulu se charger de la Flore des Bryophytes.

La Flore Générale de Belgique doit constituer une mise au point, aussi complète que possible, de toutes les connaissances acquises par les travaux de nos devanciers et de toutes les données provenant de la révision critique de l'herbier de la Flore Belge du Jardin Botanique de l'État. Ce riche et important herbier comprend les collections anciennes de B.C. Dumortier,

A. L. S. Lejeune, Melle M. A. Libert, G. D. Westendorp, F. Crépin, É. Bommer et M. Rousseau, A. Wesmael, F. Gravet, C. Delogne, etc . . ., ainsi que de nombreuses collections récentes dont les plus importantes sont celles de R. Mosseray.

La Flore Générale de Belgique sera descriptive et analytique et détaillera la chorologie de tous les taxa dans les divers territoires phytogéographiques du pays. Elle donnera, en outre, des indications éthologiques et écologiques précises, ainsi que les usages, les noms vernaculaires et le plantlore s'il y a lieu.

On s'attachera surtout à y définir les divers taxa infra-spécifiques: les sous-espèces, les variétés, les sous-variétés et les formes, qui sont particulièrement nombreux en Belgique à cause de la grande diversité des milieux écologiques et dont l'étude systématique n'avait jamais été entreprise auparavant. Cette étude, d'ailleurs fort difficile, relève, en partie, de la taxonomie expérimentale et exige des cultures comparatives permettant de juger de la constance et par là, de la valeur systématique de ces taxa.

La Flore Générale de Belgique doit permettre pratiquement la détermination facile, tant sur le frais qu'en herbier, de toutes les plantes croissant à l'état naturel dans le pays. A cet effet, elle sera pourvue, outre de clés dichotomiques basées à la fois sur les caractères de l'appareil végétatif et de l'appareil reproducteur, d'une illustration abondante et originale et de cartes de distribution.

Malgré tout, la Flore Générale de Belgique ne sera pas une oeuvre définitive. Tout en donnant un relevé complet de l'état actuel de nos connaissances, elle signalera aussi de nombreux points litigieux, ainsi qu'un certain nombre de taxa critiques dont l'étude sera à poursuivre. Elle sera ainsi le point de départ de recherches nouvelles et stimulera le progrès de nos connaissances surtout dans les domaines de la systématique et de la phytogéographie.

La Flore Générale de Belgique est publiée par le Jardin Botanique de l'État, 236 rue Royale, Bruxelles. Belgique, auquel on peut s'adresser pour tous renseignements.

NOMENCLATOR FLORAE ITALICAE

by

R. Ciferri and V. Giacomini (Pavia)

With the exception of a few regional florae, no list of Italian phanerogamic species has been published since the second (and last) edition of the regretted Prof. A. Fiori's *"Nuova Flora Analitica d'Italia"* (2 vols., 1923-25).

While careful and very useful, this standard Italian flora is very conservative in its nomenclature and, as a rule, too wide in the delimitation of the species, rejecting most of the smaller ones that are, as a result of splitting, accepted in the contemporaneous european florae, and uniting under the same (varietal) name almost all taxa varying from subspecies to true varieties (and, occasionally, forms).

The recently published *"Nomenclator Florae Italicae"* attempts to modernize Fiori's flora, but does not contain keys or descriptions and does not give the geographic distribution of the taxa; it is merely an enumeration of the species and subspecies (with a number of entities and synonyms added), under the modern binomial and referred to the correct taxon.

Special attention is paid to subspecies in view of their importance for phytogeographical research, as well as to hybrids. The adventitious species of course are also listed.

For the first time an attempt is made to include all species (and hybrids) cultivated in the open air in Italy, a tedious and difficult task in view of the large-scale and often remote introduction of plants from all parts of the world.

The first instalment (Pars I; 175 pp. 1951; Library Garzanti, Pavia, Italy) contains the *Gymnospermae* and *Monocotyledones*. It is planned to publish the second part in the year 1952, and the third and last part, which will contain also a list of the most important popular Italian plantnames, in the year 1953.

A comparison of the number of genera, species and subspecies of the *Gymnospermae* and the *Monocotyledones* accepted in the "Nuova Flora" with that given in the "Nomenclator" may be of interest (see the table).

FAMILIES	Fiori (1923—'25)			Ciferri and Giacomini (1950)		
	Genera	*Species*	*Subspecif. entities*	*Genera*	*Species*	*Subspec.*
Taxaceae	1	1	—	1	1	—
Pinaceae	4	12	12	4	15	3
— advent.	—	—	—	1	1	—
Cupressaceae	2	4	3	1	4	3
— advent.	—	—	—	3	5	—
Ephedraceae	1	3	1	1	4	—
Sparganiaceae	1	3	3	1	4	2
Typhaceae	1	4	2	1	6	—
Potamogetonaceae	5	16	16	5	25	4
Najadaceae	4	6	3	4	6	1
Scheuchzeriaceae	1	1	—	1	1	—
Alismataceae	3	7	4	6	9	1
Butomaceae	1	1	—	1	1	—
Hydrocharitaceae	3	3	—	3	3	—
— advent.	1	1	—	1	1	—
Gramineae	90	250	239	105	384	70
— advent.	4	15	24	23	62	3
Cyperaceae	11	123	67	9	172	16
— advent.	—	7	2	3	13	—
Palmae	1	1	4	1	1	—
— advent.	—	—	—	2	3	—
Araceae	5	9	4	6	12	1
— advent.	2	2	—	3	4	—
Lemnaceae	2	5	—	3	5	—
Bromeliaceae advent.	—	—	—	1	1	—
Commelinaceae advent.	2	3	—	2	3	—
Juncaceae	2	32	31	2	53	8
— advent.	—	1	—	—	1	—
Liliaceae	31	106	101	27	160	28
— advent.	2	18	15	6	27	—
Amaryllidaceae	5	12	20	5	27	6
— advent.	1	4	6	1	12	6
Dioscoreaceae	1	1	1	1	1	—
Iridaceae	5	28	32	5	55	—
— advent.	1	5	1	2	12	—
Cannaceae advent.	1	1	—	1	1	—
Orchidaceae	26	66	50	28	91	26
Tot. indig.	206	693	608	221	1043	169
— advent.	14	57	32	49	143	9
Tot. gen.	220	750	640	270	1186	178

Special Committee for Musci

Secretary: Prof. R. VAN DER WIJK - Address from Jan. 1—Aug. 1, 1952: Kebun Raya Indonesia, Bogor, *Indonesia.* Address from Aug. 1, 1952 onwards: Botanical Laboratory, State University, 31 Rozestraat, Groningen, *Netherlands.*

Dr E. B. BARTRAM, Bushkill, Pike County, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

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G. O. K. SAINSBURY, P.O. Box 88, Wairoa, New Zealand (co-optated).

Prof. G. SAYRE, Dept. of Biology, Russell Sage College, Troy, New York, U.S.A.

Prof. W. C. STEERE, Dept. of Botany, Stanford University, Stanford, California, U.S.A.

Prof. R. TUOMIKOSKI, Tempelgatan 7, Helsinki, Finland (co-optated).

The secretary has circulated a third communication in which the results are given of the voting on the three proposals mentioned in Taxon I, 2, p. 30.

1. The members of the Committee have unanimously approved the co-optation of Mr G. O. K. SAINSBURY from Wairoa (New Zealand) and Prof. R. TUOMIKOSKI from Helsinki (Finland).

2. Miss SAYRE and Prof. v. d. WIJK had put a proposal before the committee to fix the date of publication of Hedwig's *Species Muscorum* on Dec. 31, 1801.

This fixation of a specified date was made necessary by the action of the Stockholm Congress on the rewording of the old Art. 20. This included the decision to have a conventional date (either Jan. 1 or Dec. 31) for all "starting points" (with the exception of the "Species Plantarum" for which work May 1, 1753 has been accepted). In several cases the decision as to the precise date was left to the Special Committee concerned. The committee for Musci has accepted the above proposal with a large majority (7 : 1) and so the date of publication of the *Species Muscorum* has been fixed on *December 31, 1801.*

This implies that the following important bryological publications of 1801 are considered to be published *before* Hedwig's *Species Muscorum:* (information given by Miss Sayre; sequence probably chronological).

a. *Bridel,* Muscologia recentiorum, tom. II, pars II; b. *Swart,* Observationes etc. in Schrad. Journ. Bot. 2 (1): 171-185; c. *Dickson,* Plantarum cryptogamicarum Brittaniae, fasc. IV.

Hedwig's Species Muscorum seems indeed to have been published late in the year 1801, as its appearance was not stated, as far as known, in any other publication of 1801.

3. A vote has been taken on the proposal of *Little* (Synopsis Stockholm p. 226-227) to adopt *nomina generica conservanda.* The following conservations have been *accepted unanimously.*

NOMINA CONSERVANDA	NOMINA REJICIENDA
Barbula Hedw.	*Streblotrichum* Beauv.
	Barbula Lour.
Bartramia Hedw.	*Cephaloxis* Beauv.
	Bartramia L.
	Bartramia Salisb.
	Bartramia Collinson
Ephemerum Hampe	*Ephemeron (-um)* Mill.
	Ephemerum Reichenb.
Hedwigia Beauv.	*Hedwigia* Sw.
	Hedwigia Medic.
Helodium Warnst.	*Helodium* Dumort.
Meesia Hedw.	*Meesia* Gaertn.
	Diploconium Weber et Mohr
	Amblyodon Beauv.
Myrinia Schimp.	*Myrinia* Liljo
Timmia Hedw.	*Timmia* J. F. Gmel.
Tortula Hedw.	*Tortula* Roxb.
	Tortula Ritgen

The vote on the conservation of *Amblyodon* Bruck et Schimp. resulted in a tie, and therefore the decision on this proposal will have to be *postponed* until the next Congress.

The secretary is preparing a list of all taxonomical bryological papers published between 1802 and 1830. He would much appreciate any information on titles of papers from that period with extensive data as regards the dates of publication.

INDEX HERBARIORUM

The first part of the "Index Herbariorum" is now ready, and will appear in February as the first volume of "Regnum Vegetabile, a series of Handbooks issued by the International Association for Plant Taxonomy". It will be available to the members of the Association at a price that has been put so low that it just covers the costs per copy.

This first part consists of a list of the world's public herbaria. All those that are of sufficient importance have been included. They have been arranged in alphabetical sequence according to the places where they are found. Each entry contains besides the official name, the postal address and the standard abbreviation of the herbarium, the following data: the year in which the institute was founded, the number of specimens it contains, specialization in research, important collections, the names of the director or keeper and of the other members of the staff with an indication of the subjects in which they are specialized, the names of periodicals and serial publications that are issued by the institute, particularly with regard to the conditions on which materials are exchanged and loaned, eventually its association with a botanic garden, facilities for the work of visitors, etc.

In order to enhance the usefulness of this list the following indices have been added:

a. an alphabetical list of the herbarium abbreviations, b. a list of the names of all taxonomists that have been mentioned in the entries (an international address-book!), c. a list of the most important collections with references to the herbaria where they are preserved, d. a list of specialists, e. a list of institutes that specialize in the floras of definite parts of the world, f. a list of the institutes arranged according to the countries in which they are found.

In the course of 1952 a begin will be made with the issue of the voluminous second part of the "Index Herbariorum", viz. the collectors' index. It will contain the names of circa 20.000 collectors each with a reference to the herbaria where their collections are to be found. Those herbaria that did not yet send in a complete list of their collections or that can give additional information, are earnestly requested to do so as soon as possible.

To order the first part of the "Index Herbariorum" please fill in the accompanying postcard. Subscription to this part, which is an entirely independent work, does not commit you to subscribe to the following ones.

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REVISIONS IN PREPARATION

Norantea

Mr E. A. Mennega, Botanical Museum, Lange Nieuwstraat 106, Utrecht, Netherlands, is preparing a monograph of the *Marcgraviaceae*. He would much appreciate receiving living, dried or pickled material of the genus *Norantea*.

Cleome

Mr Hugh H. Iltis, Missouri Botanical Garden, 2315 Tower Grove Avenue, St. Louis 10, Missouri, U.S.A. has been working on a revision of the genus *Cleome (Capparidaceae)* for the last 3 years and hopes to finish his task this spring. The study includes only the American species of *Cleome*, inclusive *Physostemon*. He is very much interested in receiving any material of this genus for identification or verification.

Gentianella

Mr J. M. Gillet, of the Missouri Botanical Garden, is completing a revision of the North American species of *Gentianella (Gentianaceae)*.

Pittosporum

Mr Robert Cooper, from Auckland, New Zealand, temporarily at the Missouri Botanical Garden, is working on a study of the Oceanic species of *Pittosporum (Pittosporaceae)*.

Celastrus

Mr Hou Ding, temp. at the Missouri Botanical Garden, is working on a revision of the Chinese species of *Celastrus (Celastraceae)*.

Poterium, Sanguisorba et al.

Mr T. R. Laycock (3 Bent St., Longsight, Manchester 12, Great Britain) is interested in preparing a much needed monographic revision of the above *Rosaceae*, and would be grateful for both material and information. The material may be living (especially fruits), herbarium and/or pickled for anatomical and cytological study.

Pacific Algae

Dr E. Yale Dawson, Allan Hancock Foundation of the University of Southern California, is preparing a series of publications on the *Algae* of the Eastern Pacific. The manuscript of the first of this series of volumes is practically complete.

III CONGRESO BOTÁNICO SURAMERICANO

El III Congreso Botánico Suramericano que debería reunirse en Bogotá en 1953 ha sido aplazado por decisión de su Patrono, el Gobierno de Colombia, con el objeto de que los especialistas del ramo en la nación Colombiana puedan adelantar importantes realizaciones de carácter botánico.

El Presidente del Comité Organizador: Doctor Enrique Perez-Arbelaez (Dirección postal: Apartado aéreo 5312, Bogotá, Colombia) comunicará en breve las nuevas determinaciones que se tomen.

* * *

The third South American Botanical Congress which would have been held in Bogotá, Colombia in the year 1953 has been postponed to a later date, which has not yet been published. This decision has been taken by the Government of Colombia, under whose auspices the Congress is to be held, in order to create a better opportunity for the Colombian botanists to make the necessary preparations.

The President of the Organizing Committee, Dr Enrique Perez Arbelaez (Postal address: Apartado aéreo 5312, Bogotá, Colombia, S.A.,), will within short give further information on the new decisions.

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The following applications for membership were received while this issue of Taxon was in the press

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Hall, M. T., Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Mich. U.S.A.

Little, E. L., Jr., U.S. Dept. Agr., Forest Service, Washington 25 D.C., U.S.A.

Sandwith, N. Y., The Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Surrey, Great Britain.

REGNUM VEGETABILE

The first volumes of this series of handbooks, for the use of Plant Taxonomists and Plant Geographers, issued by the I.A.P.T., will come from the press in the next months.

VOL. I. *Seventh International Botanical Congress, Section Nomenclature*; report by J. Lanjouw, Rapporteur Général.

Reprinted from the Proceedings of the Stockholm Congress and to be distributed *free* to the Members of the I.A.P.T. only. Not for sale. *(Probably February 1952).*

Distributors: The International Bureau for Plant Taxonomy and Nomenclature.

This report contains an introduction on the procedure in Stockholm, and the minutes of the discussions in the section mainly based on the report of the secretary for English, Mrs M. L. Sprague and on the reports of the secretaries for German and French, Drs J. Mattfeld and W. Robyns. Two supplements embodying the decisions — as accepted by the Congress — of the special committee for Paleobotany, and that of the special committee on Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants, a supplement giving the new rules of Typification, and a supplement furnishing technical data (committees, votes) are added.

VOL. 2. *Index Herbariorum. A guide to the location and contents of the World's Public Herbaria;* edited by J. Lanjouw Ph. D. Part 1. The Herbaria of the world by J. Lanjouw Ph. D. and F. A. Stafleu Ph. D. Published with financial support of I.U.B.S. and UNESCO by the International Bureau for Plant Taxonomy and Nomenclature of the I.A.P.T. (February 1952).

Data about contents, prices etc. are given in this issue of *Taxon* on p. 41.

VOL. 3. *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, adopted by the 7th International Botanical Congress, Stockholm, July 1950;* prepared by Ch. Baehni, J. Lanjouw, E. D. Merrill, H. W. Rickett, W. Robyns, T. A. Sprague, (Editorial Committee).

Published with financial support of I.U.B.S. and UNESCO by the International Bureau for Plant Taxonomy and Nomenclature of the I.A.P.T. *(Probably June 1952).* A note on this edition may be found in Dr Merrill's report on the Cheltenham conference on p. 35 of this number of *Taxon.* Further details on pre-publication prices will be given in one of the forthcoming issues.

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